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Executive Secretary

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 27, 1986

Executive Registry	
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MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM J. CASEY

FROM: PAT BUCHANAN *PB*

SUBJECT: The President's Address on Peace and
National Security -- Advocacy Materials

Attached, for your information and use, are advocacy materials that cover the major components of the President's defense proposals.

If you have questions regarding this package, please call me or Tom Gibson in the Office of Public Affairs.

Thanks very much.

Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

PEACE DEPENDS ON AMERICAN RESOLVE

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A SUMMARY OF THE PRESIDENT'S DEFENSE PROPOSALS

TAB A	Executive Summary
TAB B	Speech Inserts
TAB C	Talking Points

WHITE HOUSE ISSUE BRIEF

PEACE DEPENDS ON AMERICAN RESOLVE

Executive Summary of the President's Defense Proposals

- The danger of complacency. Americans didn't spend the past five years making our military more capable and our country secure again, only to undo it all in the President's second term.
- A strong America is essential for peace. In the 1970s, slackening of our defense effort invited the very risks and dangers we sought to avoid.
- Peace depends on us -- on our courage to build it, guard it, and pass it on to succeeding generations.
- Use our advantage in technology. The job doesn't require large numbers and brute force that characterize the Soviet military. We must translate our advantage in the lab to an advantage in the field.
- Continue partnership with allies. Strengthening America by providing economic and military assistance to friends in strategic places.
- Make the most of our defense dollars. Administration will relentlessly pursue defense reform where needed. This Administration discovered past abuses and corrected them; President appointed Packard Commission develop a road-map to go beyond improvements already made.
- Reduce dependence on nuclear weapons. Strategic Defense Initiative could one day lead to a security shield and free us from prison of nuclear terror. Enhanced conventional defense is also key.
- Negotiate from strength. American resolve has led the Soviets back to the bargaining table. If we sustain efforts now, we have the best chance in decades of building a more secure peace.

WHITE HOUSE ISSUE BRIEF

PEACE DEPENDS ON AMERICAN RESOLVE

DON'T THROW IT AWAY

Americans didn't spend the past five years making our military more capable and our country secure again, only to undo it all in the President's second term.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF PAST FIVE YEARS:

1. Not one square inch of territory lost to the Communists; Grenada set free; elsewhere (Angola, Nicaragua, Afghanistan), freedom fighters fighting back, Communists in retreat.
2. Western alliance strengthened; Pershing and cruise missile deployments on schedule.
3. Pride in U.S. Armed Forces restored. Recruitment goals being met with high-quality recruits, at a time of shrinking military age pool and economic growth providing hundreds of thousands of job opportunities.
4. Strategic modernization program underway -- MX, Trident submarine, B-1 and Stealth bombers. First significant improvement in America's strategic deterrent in 20 years.
5. Under Reagan Administration, a full-scale attack against waste initiated. Defense Department has dramatically reduced cost growth in major weapons programs.
6. Steps taken to reduce danger of nuclear war. Research program on SDI and conventional force improvements will lead to reduced dependence on nuclear weapons.
7. Soviets brought back to the bargaining table without major U.S. concessions.

WHY NOT CUT DEFENSE?

- A. The price for peace in the world is a strong America.
- B. Defense spending has already been cut below 1985 levels -- by about 6% after inflation. Further cuts are reckless, dangerous and wrong.
- C. Defense is the unique obligation of the federal government.
- D. Sharp cuts in defense would strike hard at the men and women in uniform.
- E. Soviet modernization continues at a fast pace.
- F. If U.S. defense programs are crippled or abandoned, then the unstable world of late 1970s returns and Soviets no longer have incentives to negotiate.
- G. Arbitrary cuts will bring false economies in the short run, greater costs in the long run.

WHITE HOUSE ISSUE BRIEF

MYTHS ABOUT DEFENSE

MYTH #1: Defense spending is totally responsible for the federal deficit.

FACT: Between FY 1980 and FY 1985, total federal spending increased by \$355 billion. Only about one third of that amount (\$119 billion) was for defense.

MYTH #2: "Reality" at the Department of Defense is represented by a \$400 hammer.

FACT: Our Inspector General, our workers identified abuses and obtained refunds. This Administration has dramatically reduced cost growth in major weapons programs -- from 14% in 1981 to below 1% in 1984.

MYTH #3: The Reagan Administration has not compromised with Congress on defense spending.

FACT: In the 1986 Budget Resolution Compromise, the Administration agreed to zero real growth in FY 1986, to be followed by 3 percent annual growth. However, further cuts were made. Result: In FY 1986 defense spending will decline about 6 percent in real terms from FY 85 levels.

MYTH #4: Cuts in defense will automatically save money.

FACT: Stop-and-go procurement and stretch-outs are extremely expensive. We end up with less equipment at much higher cost per item.

MYTH #5: Sharp cuts in defense can be made without damage to our national security.

FACT: During the 1970s, we seriously underfunded our defense programs -- with disastrous results for world peace and U.S. security. Today, Soviet military build-up continues.

The President's Defense Proposals

1. Use our advantage in technology.
2. Continue partnership with allies.
3. Make the most of our defense dollars.
4. Reduce dependence on nuclear weapons.
5. Negotiate from strength.

The choice is clear: Preserve defense and keep the peace or turn back the clock to the late 1970s, when our planes could not fly and our ships couldn't sail for lack of parts or trained personnel.

B

SPEECH INSERT #1: DEFENSE ADVOCACY

(General Themes)

America's defense story right now is a story of remarkable progress -- and continuing challenges.

Since 1981, our Armed Forces have come a long way. We've turned around the history of neglect of the 1970s. We have moved decisively to modernize our strategic deterrent through long overdue deployment of the B-1B bomber, the Peacekeeper ICBM, and Trident submarines. We've also made improvements in our command, control and communications systems. In addition, we have enhanced the deterrence and defense capabilities of our conventional forces through equipment modernization and increased emphasis on readiness and strategic mobility.

Our most gratifying success has been our people in uniform. Recruiting and retention have reached unprecedented levels. In every branch of the services, seasoned leaders testify that our young men and women are the finest they have ever led.

The result of this progress has been greater security, stronger U.S. leadership abroad, and invigorated alliances. There's another payoff: Moscow has returned to the bargaining table in Geneva.

With success has come the danger that Americans will take our more secure position for granted and think we can begin to slide again. The fact we too often forget is that ultimately our security requirements depend heavily on the actions of our adversaries. And the Soviet military build-up has not abated.

- 2 -

We have regained lost ground. But we can't delude ourselves that our restraint will be met by reciprocal restraint in Moscow.

We can continue our progress and ensure our long-range security with President Reagan's defense budget. His proposal is consistent with funding levels of the President's agreement with Congress in the 1986 Budget Resolution. In view of the severe 1986 Congressional reduction -- 6% below 1985 levels -- it is critical that no further cuts be made. These are politically supportable levels that are eminently justifiable.

The federal government has no higher priority than the defense of the Nation. We must remember that military spending should be geared to the external threat, and not just the accountant's ledger.

SPEECH INSERT #2: DEFENSE ADVOCACY

(Supportive Audiences)

The most dangerous -- and avoidable -- mistake we can make in creating and carrying out a defense policy is to forget the nature of our adversaries. The Soviet Union is and always has been hostile to the ideas of liberty and democracy. They are hostile to our entire political system; they are dedicated to its destruction. Knowing this is the beginning of wisdom, because knowing this means we have to be strong. If we're strong, if we have a strong defense, the Soviets will not break the peace. So that's what we have to remember: Weakness is provocative and strength deters war.

You remember the 1970s. You can boo here if you like. In the 1970s it was fashionable to say and think that American power was an evil force in the world. The Soviet Union took advantage of our self doubt and expanded their influence worldwide. The Red Army stormed into Afghanistan. The Soviets and their proxies took over Angola, Ethiopia, South Yemen, Nicaragua. Then suddenly, we, the American people, woke up. We elected Ronald Reagan and we decided to shoulder once again the responsibility of maintaining global stability.

This responsibility, however, requires of ourselves and our allies significant investments in a national defense -- a defense that not only deters aggression, but extends a helping hand to those unable to protect their own independence.

- 2 -

It's not easy or pleasant to spend money on defense systems when we'd rather spend it on other things. But to defend liberty we'll have to do it. We can't relive the '70s. It's not safe for us and not safe for the world.

President Reagan is asking for modest allotments for defense. He deserves our support. He needs it. And your Members of Congress must hear how you feel. I urge you to write and tell them to back Ronald Reagan in building a strong America.

SPEECH INSERT #3: DEFENSE ADVOCACY

(Domestic Audience -- Budget Priorities and Congress)

When President Reagan took office in 1981, the free world was facing the most serious threat to its security since the 1940s. Soviet aggression, though veiled throughout most of the 1970s by the use of surrogates such as Cuba, was nakedly revealed in Afghanistan for all the world to see. And that was only the beginning of the latest round.

Soviet intransigence on arms reduction issues was blatant -- they thwarted American proposals and blithely ignored the accords they had signed. They made new inroads in Africa and Central America. They encouraged terrorism and terrorists.

But the world is different today. The Soviets have not taken another Afghanistan, and there is new reason to hope for fruitful arms control negotiations.

What changed? The answer is simple: The long delayed process of rebuilding America's military strength began. The American people -- and our allies -- have demonstrated our unwillingness to abrogate our responsibilities and allow the Soviet Union to exploit an unchallenged military superiority.

Since 1981, we have maintained a steady effort to rebuild our nuclear deterrent forces, renew our conventional forces, and support America's uniformed men and women with more adequate pay and facilities.

- 2 -

We have been successful thus far. But these are only first steps. We have more to do. Our strategic deterrent forces have new strength and resilience, but modernization is not yet complete. Our front line forces have new tanks, new missiles, and other equipment, but not yet in sufficient numbers. And our military families have recovered some of the ground they lost in the 1970s -- recruiting and retention rates are improved.

But the future we face is just as challenging as the past we survived. We must complete our modernization and extend the protection it offers into the next century. And we must maintain the Strategic Defense Initiative as a high priority which offers new hope for freedom from the threat of devastation by nuclear missiles.

The President's defense budget is designed to accomplish a very simple and straightforward series of goals: Extend the protection of our strategic deterrent capability; attain sufficient conventional force strength to defend ourselves and our allies; maintain sufficient strength to provide incentives for the Soviet Union to accept meaningful arms reduction agreements; and pursue a strategic defense system that negates the most dangerous of offensive weapons: ballistic missiles.

And that is exactly what the Defense Department is working toward. No more and no less. Surely the American people and all who stand freedom should not be denied the tools to provide for thier own security. That's what the President's budget is all about.

This is no time to back down, backslide or backtrack. This is the time to move on and consolidate the gains we've made.

SPEECH INSERT #4: DEFENSE ADVOCACY

(Peace Through Strength)

Because of the incentives our military modernization have provided, the Soviet Union is finally beginning to think seriously about real cuts in strategic nuclear weapons. The willingness of the Soviet Union to negotiate seriously, to accept reasonable agreements, and to comply with those agreements has depended on their judgement of what we will do in the absence of an agreement. Because we rebuilt our national defense, we now see the prospect of the most far-reaching arms agreements ever achieved.

Now is the time to strengthen the President's hand in these negotiations -- not to tie one arm behind his back.

Success will not occur overnight. Success will require a determination to remain strong and resist politically expedient calls to cut military spending. Supporting the President's FY 1987 defense budget request is evidence of this determination.

If our quest for a lasting peace is to succeed, it must be based on realistic understanding of Soviet aims. Henry Kissinger wrote in his memoirs that Soviet diplomacy has one great asset. The Kremlin, he said, is "extraordinarily persevering: It substitutes persistence for imagination, has no domestic deadlocks, and it is not accused of rigidity if it advances variations of the same proposals year after year. There are no rewards for the exploration of ever-new schemes, which turns so much of our diplomacy into negotiations with ourselves."

- 2 -

Inflexibility can be a strategy, of course, and it has often proved to be a very successful one for the Soviets. We cannot allow the Soviets to wear us down as they did in the '70s. Already the Congress is getting jittery. It's threatening to jeopardize the progress we have made in restoring our defenses -- and this is happening just as the Soviets appear to be getting serious about meaningful arms reductions through negotiations.

Our rebuilding led the Soviets back to the peace talks. If we maintain our military strength, the Soviets will negotiate. Peace that comes from strength will make the world a safer place. If we stay on course and stay steady and refuse to retreat and backslide, then we can convince the Soviet Union to reexamine their negotiating strategy.

Support for the President's budget will also give a real boost to our search for a strategic defense that would enable us to defend against nuclear missiles. This is not an attempt to militarize the heavens -- it's an attempt to see if we can't make this fragile globe a safer place for all humanity.

All this is possible. We must not falter now. Strength is the price of peace.

C

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

MAINTAINING AMERICA'S DEFENSES

- o Americans didn't spend the past five years revitalizing our defenses and restoring security to let things crumble through neglect in the President's second term. There is no resting on laurels where peace and security are at stake.

Then -- 1970s: A Defense, a Nation, in Disrepair

- o The Reagan Administration inherited several acute defense problems requiring immediate attention in 1981:
 - There was no comprehensive plan for strategic modernization;
 - Production rates for many important procurement programs were grossly inefficient;
 - Reserve strength and war-fighting capability were extremely low;
 - There was an ongoing "hemorrhage" of skilled manpower; and
 - Planes couldn't fly and ships couldn't sail for lack of parts.

Now -- A Record of Accomplishments

- o These problems were immense; they required urgent attention and major commitment of new resources. We set out in 1981 to do a job -- and we did it.
 - Not one square inch of territory has been lost to the Communists; Grenada was set free; elsewhere in the world -- Angola, Afghanistan, Nicaragua -- freedom fighters are fighting back, Communists are in retreat.
 - The Western alliance is much stronger today than five years ago; Pershing and cruise missile deployments are on schedule.
 - Pride in U.S. Armed forces has been restored. Recruitment goals being met with high-quality recruits, at a time of shrinking military age pool and economic growth providing hundreds of thousands of other job opportunities.
 - Strategic modernization program now underway -- MX, Trident submarine, B-1 and Stealth bombers -- is the first significant improvement in America's strategic deterrent in 20 years.
 - The Defense Department has initiated an attack against waste and virtually eliminated cost growth in major weapons development programs.
 - Research program on the Strategic Defense Initiative and more advanced non-nuclear conventional defense will lead to reduced dependence on nuclear weapons.
 - The Soviets have returned to the bargaining table without major U.S. concessions.

(Maintaining America's Defenses, continued)

- o The problems we inherited could not be solved completely within four years. But President Reagan has demonstrated that it is possible to set defense priorities and to make balanced progress in improving overall military capabilities and restoring the strategic balance.
- o We now face the task of keeping our defenses capable of responding to increasing Soviet military capability and continuing instability in many parts of the world.

Regional Stability and Security Assistance

By improving the stability and strength of our friends and allies, we enhance our ability to defend U.S. interests abroad.

- o Security assistance is one of the most cost-effective means of protecting U.S. interests abroad while promoting the growth of freedom and democracy.
- o Greater regional stability reduces the potential for confrontation between the superpowers.

Arms Control -- Real Return on Investments in Security

The President needs continued bipartisan support in Congress and among the American people to deal effectively with the Soviets. Resolve and strength -- attributes understood and respected by the Soviet leaders -- have brought the USSR to the negotiating table, because they no longer perceive opportunities to exploit military advantage.

- o Now is not the time for Congress to send the President back to the negotiating table or to the forthcoming Summit hat in hand.
- o Restoring American defenses and working to ease tension in troubled regions of the world have put arms negotiations on track. They are the same elements that are required to bring real results at the negotiating table.

Technology Key

- o The U.S. is not locked into a strategy of matching, one for one, every Soviet military increase. Their military forces number 5 million; ours 2 million. They have and will likely maintain numerical superiority in conventional forces and some strategic areas.
- o The U.S. must counter Soviet numbers with innovation and technology. In short, if they will be bigger, then we must be better.

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

FIGHTING WASTE

The price for peace in the world is a strong America. The President vigorously pursues all options to get maximum return on every tax dollar spent for defense.

- Step 1: Reform from within. Through management improvements and dedication to rooting out waste, the Defense Department has practically eliminated rampant growth in costs of weapons systems.
- Step 2: Packard Commission. The President appointed a bipartisan Blue Ribbon Commission on Defense Management to step back and review the entire procurement process. Their recommendations will be reviewed and implemented for even greater efficiency within the procurement process.
- Step 3: Needed now: A bipartisan commitment among all parties to lock-in cost efficiency by ensuring greater stability at all levels of the procurement process.

Accomplishments in Cost Control

- o In 1981, costs in major weapon system development programs were growing at an average rate of 14 percent. The Reagan Administration reduced cost growth to less than 1 percent annually in FY 1984 -- saving billions of tax dollars.
 - The B-1B bomber is now entering our inventory, ahead of schedule, at 9 percent below original budget estimates.
 - The price of a Navy destroyer dropped by 24 percent from original expectations.
 - Each Navy F-18 fighter costs \$3.8 million less than Congress budgeted for it in 1982; \$5.4 million less than in 1981.
 - The Trident submarine "Alaska" was \$60 million cheaper than its predecessors.

"Horror Stories" in Perspective

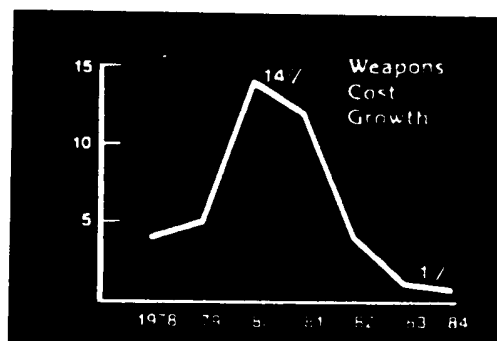
- o Horror stories about defense spending make for good copy and good cartoons, but the media are telling only half the story.
- o DOD has 15 million contract actions annually with over 300,000 contractors. Almost every "telegenic" abuse has been discovered by the Defense Department's own work force, including the DOD Inspector General.
- o The Defense Department paid \$435 for a claw hammer in 1981. The Navy found the mistake, and we got our money back. DOD paid between \$6 to \$8 each for the thousands of hammers purchased that same year and ever since.

(Fighting Waste, continued)

- o Overcharges were discovered on two pairs of pliers in 1981; we got refunds then, too. DOD bought over 3,500 similar pliers that year for \$3.10 each.
- o Specifications for coffeemakers on the C-5A aircraft were written in the 1960s. The original replacement cost was \$7,600. We rewrote the rules and in 1984 bought replacement units for 60 percent less, cheaper than the price paid by commercial airlines.
- o The Defense Department pays \$9.37 for toilet seats on the Navy's P-3 aircraft. A molded plastic assembly covering an entire lavatory for the aircraft cost \$640. After DOD questioned the cost, the supplier refunded \$29,000 out of \$34,000 paid for 54 units.

On the Attack Against Waste

- o Those who cheat or steal from the taxpayers, or endanger our servicemen and women by selling us faulty equipment, will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
- o Since 1981, DOD has conducted 60,000 audits which have produced more than \$10 billion in savings.
- o Competitive bidding is now the rule. Since 1981, we have increased competitive contracts by 37 percent. Today, 72 percent of DOD contracts result from competition.
 - In 1981, only 26 percent of the Navy's shipbuilding contracts were awarded competitively. In 1985, more than 90 percent of those contracts were awarded competitively.
 - Some frequently ordered spare parts now cost 25 percent less than they did before strict competitive bidding was introduced.
- o Under this Administration, multi-year procurement policies were established so contractors can take advantage of economies of scale in buying raw materials and scheduling work. Total savings are estimated at \$6.1 billion over annual contracting methods.
- o Fiscal controls on a system that processes 15 million contract actions a year are, by nature, an extremely complex management challenge. But concerted efforts have yielded excellent results.



WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

DEFENSE BUDGET OVERVIEW

- o Defense is the unique obligation of the Federal Government. No other level of government or private institution can fund national defense. In contrast, many domestic programs can be more effectively and more efficiently performed by state or local governments.
- o The President's FY 1987 budget includes a modest increase in defense to sustain recent improvements in capability. Even with the proposed increases, defense still constitutes a smaller share of the budget and of GNP than the pre-Vietnam years of the Kennedy-Johnson Administrations.
- o In the first five years of the Reagan Administration, we reversed alarming declines in our defenses and made significant progress in strengthening our military capabilities. We have laid the foundation for the most effective American military we have ever had in peacetime.
- o The biggest increases in defense spending are behind us. That's why the President agreed to a pause -- zero growth -- in rebuilding our defenses in FY 1986, as part of a budget compromise with the Congress. This compromise alone would have yielded \$290 billion in savings over five years. That same compromise called for 3 percent real growth in FY 1987 over FY 1985. This is all the President is asking for.
- o Unfortunately, many Members of Congress have forgotten their part of the bargain. Congress cut defense spending below the August 1985 compromise levels. When combined with the automatic cuts already required under Gramm-Rudman Hollings, the effect of these cuts has been to reduce FY 1986 funding by about 6 percent in real terms below FY 85 levels.

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

CONGRESS AND DEFENSE SPENDING

- o A strong, stable defense program sends a message to our allies and adversaries about America's intention to meet global commitments and prevent adversaries from creating and exploiting instability in the world.
- o This message must be bipartisan to be effective. Congress and the Administration must work together to produce a defense budget that provides the resources necessary to meet security requirements at the lowest possible cost to the taxpayer.

The President Has Compromised on Defense

To respond to pressures created by the deficit and other domestic priorities, the President has already accepted lower defense budgets from Congress, reducing any margin for compromise.

1st Cut: The May 1984 "Rose Garden" agreement with Congress cut \$55 billion from the President's proposed five-year plan (FY 1985-89).

2nd Cut: The FY 1986 Budget Resolution Compromise (August 1985) provided zero percent real growth in FY 1986 and a modest 3 percent thereafter -- yielding savings of \$290 billion over FY 1986-90.

3rd Cut: Congress actually cut \$5 billion from the agreed-to FY 1986 funding level; another \$11 billion was cut under the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings sequester. Rather than zero real growth, FY 1986 level will decline about 6 percent in real terms below FY 1985 levels.

Result: This year, for the first time in 15 years, there will be an absolute decline in the defense budget below the previous year.

- o Between FY 1980 and FY 1985, federal spending increased by \$355 billion -- defense spending increased by only one third of that amount.

Congress Can Help by Cutting its own Pork out of Defense

- o While some Members of Congress may profess support for a more efficient military, many balk when military construction projects in home districts are put on the chopping block. Example:
 - Each year a number of low-priority military construction projects are slipped into appropriations bills by Members of Congress trying to curry local favor. In 1986, as many as 15 projects were added at a total cost to the taxpayer of \$50 million.

(Congress and Defense Spending)

- o In many respects Congress ties the hands of the President and attempts micro-management of our defense programs. Example:
 - Of the hundreds of military installations in the United States, some are non-essential. Yet since 1976, bipartisan majorities in Congress have blocked closing any bases. "Fine print" in Gramm-Rudman-Hollings specifically prohibits the President from closing military bases to meet the deficit reduction targets.

Reduce Costs -- Shared Effort

- o The President expanded upon the in-house management improvement and cost savings achieved at the Department of Defense by appointing The Packard Commission -- a blue ribbon task force to make additional recommendations on improving defense management.
- o Real efficiency and credible defense spending will only come about through a shared effort by Congress and the Administration. The American people must have confidence that their tax dollars are being put to good use on both fronts -- for domestic programs and for national security.

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

CUTTING DEFENSE -- FALSE ECONOMY AND GREATER RISK

Pennywise and Pound Foolish

An abrupt turnaround in Congressional support for essential defense spending would result in false economies -- and jeopardize national security interests.

- o Stop-and-go procurement and stretch-outs are extremely expensive. We end up with less equipment at much higher cost per item. Example: F-15 Fighter.

In 1973, the original F-15 acquisition program for about 700 planes was scheduled to be completed in five years. Two years were added to the process -- same number of planes -- and total costs increased \$2 billion.

- o Inadequate pay or personnel cuts would yield a reduced quality of life for service personnel and hurt morale and increase turnover. Higher turnover means higher training costs for less experienced forces. Example: Fighter pilots.

It costs about \$1 million to train an F-16 fighter pilot. That investment can be lost after only five years if a pilot decides to leave the Air Force because of a decline in real income. Losing a top Air Force pilot is a quick way of losing a million dollar investment.

Cutting Defense -- It's Not Safe

- o During the 1970s, the United States seriously underfunded defense programs -- with disastrous consequences for world peace and U.S. security.
 - From 1970 to 1981, U.S. defense spending declined nearly 20 percent in real terms.
 - As a percentage of GNP, defense spending declined to 5 percent by 1977, down from 7.5 percent of GNP in 1971.
 - Between 1970 and 1985, the Soviet Union invested \$500 billion more than we did in defense and built 3 times as many strategic missiles.
 - Today the Soviet Union has deployed over one-and-a-half times as many combat aircraft as the United States, nearly three times as many submarines, over five times as many tanks, and over eleven times as many artillery pieces.
- o Soviet military expansion continues with more emphasis on quality and high technology. Over the next 5 years, it is estimated that the Soviets will deploy on the order of 40 nuclear submarines, 500 new ballistic missiles, and 18,000 modern tanks.

WHITE HOUSE TALKING POINTS

THE PEOPLE WHO PROTECT US

- o Critics of the President's defense budget generally neglect the effects their agenda would have on the major component of defense outlays and the principal reason for our improved security -- our men and women in uniform.
- o It is folly to focus simply on the costs of buying weapons systems and ignore the trained personnel who run and maintain military equipment. To skimp on personnel is to risk undermining maintenance, training, and crew proficiency for systems already in place or approved by Congress.
- o Our servicemen and women have volunteered, trained hard, and are re-enlisting. We owe them the best equipment we can place in their hands.

Restoring Pride

- o Since 1980, total active duty strength has increased nearly 5 percent, to nearly 2.2 million. Recruitment goals are being met and with record high-quality recruits at a time of a shrinking military age pool and record economic growth that is providing hundreds of thousands of job opportunities in the private sector.
 - In 1980, only 54 percent of the Army's recruits were high school graduates.
 - In 1985, 91 percent of our recruits had high school diplomas; the highest rate ever.
- o The loss of experienced personnel because of low morale and low pay during the 1970s has been halted. The current re-enlistment rate for career enlisted personnel is now 84 percent, up from about 68 percent in 1979. Since 1980, the average period of service for enlisted personnel has increased nearly 9 percent.
- o Our reserve forces, composed of over 1 million citizen sailors and soldiers, are dramatically stronger, larger, and more ready than they have been for years.
- o With our efforts to provide better military housing and other facilities, quality of life for servicemen and women has improved significantly over the past five years.
- o To continue this progress, the President's proposed FY 1987 budget provides for a modest military pay raise of 4 percent, effective October 1986.